

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 L-03 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07

NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04

SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 USIE-00 H-02

PRS-01 /083 W

----- 012951

O R 051350Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2691

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEGUCIGALPA 1223

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, EAGR, HO

SUBJECT: HONDURAS ACTS TO EXPROPRIATE PORTION OF STANDARD FRUIT
PROPERTY

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 525, SOWASH/WACKERBARTH TELCON

1. STANDARD FRUIT (CASTLE AND COOK) HAS ADVISED THE EMBASSY THAT
THE NATIONAL AGRARIAN INSTITUTE (INA) HAS ISSUED AN ORDER, ACUERDO
NO. 5 DATED JANUARY 16 AND DELIVERED TO THE COMPANY LAST WEEK
WHICH EXPROPRIATES ALL STANDARD FRUIT PROPERTIES IN THE ISLETA
AREA OF THE AGUAN VALLEY.

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2. STANDARD FRUIT HAD PREVIOUSLY GIVEN AUTHORITY TO THE HONDURAN

GOVERNMENT TO ENTER THE PROPERTIES CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 43,000 ACRES OF LAND EXCEPTION ONLY SOME ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS. THE INA ACTION FOLLOWS THE BREAK-OFF OF COMPANY NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF ISLETAS WITH THE HONDURAN BANANA CORPORATION (COHBANA).

3. STANDARD FRUIT IS TAKING AVAILABLE LEGAL RECOURSE TO DISPUTE INA ACTION, ACCORDING TO A COMPANY OFFICIAL.

4. EMBASSY ATTEMPTS TO CONFIRM THE EXPROPRIATION ACTION RESULTED IN A STATEMENT BY A HONDURAN BANANA CORPORATION OFFICIAL THAT HE THOUGHT THE RECENT EXPROPRIATION ONLY APPLIED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS AND THAT THE BULK OF LAND AREA HAD BEEN EXPROPRIATED BY INA LAST YEAR. AS OF THE MOMENT, THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN FURTHER CLARIFICATION.
SANCHEZ

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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